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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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## INFORMATION REPORT

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1. On 8 June 1952, the Political Department of the East China Military Area held a conference at Shanghai on cultural and recreation work among army units. SHU T'ung (5289/0681), chief of the Political Department, presided over the conference, which was attended by 60 responsible cadre members from the political, cultural, and propaganda departments of the provincial military districts, the army groups and the armies in the East China Area.
2. CHIANG Lan (3068/1526), chief of the Cultural Department of the Political Department, East China Military Area, made a general report on cultural and recreation work in troop units during the past year. He noted that this work failed to reach company-level units, and presented the following problems for consideration by the conference:
  - a. Newspapers and books are scarce in company-level units and below. The colored pictorials issued by higher organizations fail to reach company-level units because copies are retained by each level through which they pass.
  - b. The cultural and recreation funds of each company-level unit are barely sufficient to purchase some chalk, which is used primarily in preparing "blackboard publications."
  - c. Over 30% of troops scattered in several locations on detached service have never seen a movie or a play.
  - d. Athletic equipment for ball games is purchased with money saved by the soldiers from their allowances for the purchase of food. This means that they suffer from malnutrition in order to buy cultural and recreational equipment.
  - e. Soldiers in company-level units are busily engaged in military training. When their daily military training program has been completed, they are

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forced to engage in learning or in production. Consequently, the time scheduled for cultural and recreation activities has been entirely taken away.

3. The conferees decided to meet the above problems by immediately improving and strengthening cultural and recreation work in company-level units in accordance with the spirit of the "Cultural and Recreation Activities for Troops" prescribed by the Central Political Department of the People's Revolutionary Military Council. The conference adopted the measures summarized below:
  - a. Beginning in July 1952, six-tenths of the cultural and recreation allotments of the provincial military districts' political departments should be spent directly on company-level units.
  - b. Cultural workers and cultural activities corps of the provincial military districts and of the army groups must carry their activities down to the company level throughout the area of their responsibility in order to meet the company level needs for cultural and recreational activities.
  - c. The political departments of the provincial military districts should see that there are movie theaters in all principal cities which give free shows to soldiers. The travelling movie projection groups of the major military regions should give shows in places where only small troop units are stationed.
  - d. The policy formerly followed by cultural activities corps of having "surprise showings" (i.e., unscheduled with little or no previous notice) should be changed to a policy of "scheduled showings."
  - e. The time scheduled for the soldiers' cultural and recreational activities should be strictly followed, without exception; no other work shall be allowed to encroach on this time.
  - f. All cultural and recreation equipment should be purchased by the political departments of the provincial military districts. This equipment must be evenly distributed, using the company as the unit for distribution.

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